

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /057 W

----- 107967

R 050920Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3468

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 3882

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, EEC, SN

SUBJ: EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT VISIT TO SINGAPORE

REF: EC BRUSSELS 7600

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI VISITED SINGAPORE FROM AUGUST 29 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2. THE PROGRAM FOR ORTOLI AND HIS PARTY INCLUDED A VISIT TO JURONG TOWN AND DISCUSSIONS WITH BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW.

2. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, ORTOLI STATED THAT THE EC WAS ACTIVELY FORMULATING A "NEW LOOK" IN ITS RELATIONS WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES. ORTOLI EXPANDED ON THIS THEME BY SAYING THAT THE NEW POLICY WOULD FOCUS ON EXPANDING ASEAN EXPORTS TO THE EC BUT NOTED THAT A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE SOUGHT WITHIN THE GSP SYSTEM SINCE "WE DO NOT PLAN TO GIVE MORE AND MORE PREFERENCES."

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ACCORDING TO ORTOLI'S LOCAL ESCORT, ITALIAN AMBASSADOR DE CARDONA, PRIME MINISTER LEE PRO-

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VIDED THE EC OFFICIAL WITH A TOUR D'HORIZON OF HIS POLITICAL AND

ECONOMIC CONCERNS, PARTICULARLY DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING THE STABILITY OF THAILAND AND MALAYSIA AND THE IMPACT OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION ON SINGAPORE. IN THE LATTER CONNECTION, LEE REPORTEDLY INQUIRED WHETHER THE EC MIGHT NOT IMPORT MORE PLYWOOD AND ELECTRONIC ITEMS FROM SINGAPORE, TWO ESPECIALLY HARD HIT INDUSTRIAL SECTORS. END L.O.U.
HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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